

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application (material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]].

1-11. (Cancelled).

12. (Withdrawn) A loading apparatus for mounting a movable frame on a stationary frame, wherein there is an elevatable support member mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support member having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support; wherein a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperates with the elevatable support member to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis; characterized in that:

a drive is co-axially arranged with the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis; the drive is adapted for connection with the moveable frame, so that the drive may slidably move the moveable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame, while the lift action control mechanism permits the angle of the elevatable support to adapt about the elevatable support axis so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame.

13. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame.

14. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the drive is a sprocket powered by an axle, and the elevatable support is rotatably attached to the axle.

15. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein there is an interconnection between the elevatable support and the moveable frame, during sliding movement of the movable frame, so that the movable frame adapts the angle of the elevatable support through the interconnection.

16. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the drive is a sprocket powered by an axle, and the elevatable support is rotatably attached to the axle.

17. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of any one of claims 12 through 16, wherein the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support member towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

18. (Currently Amended) A loading apparatus comprising:

- a) a stationary frame having a drive;
- b) a movable frame having a flexible connector releasably connectable to the drive to ~~move~~ **load** the movable frame onto the stationary frame; and
- c) a locking system mounted on the stationary frame to hold the flexible connector in releasable engagement with the drive, the locking system having a movable shoe arm positionable to keep the flexible connector in engagement with a first portion of the drive, the shoe arm being movable by the ~~movement~~ **loading** of the movable frame, when driven by the drive, to displace the moveable shoe arm so that the flexible connector may be released from the drive.

19. (Previously Presented) The loading apparatus of claim 18, wherein;
the locking system further comprises a sensing plate locking arm adapted to contact the movable shoe arm to lock the movable shoe arm into position to keep the flexible connector in engagement with the drive; and
the sensing plate locking arm is movable by the movement of the movable frame, when driven by the drive, to displace the sensing plate locking arm to release the movable shoe arm so that the movable shoe arm may be displaced by the movable frame to release the flexible connector from the drive.

20. (Previously Presented) The loading apparatus of claim 19 wherein the sensing plate locking arm is operably connected to a tab shaped to prevent the flexible connector from engaging a second portion of the drive, in cooperation with the movable shoe arm being positioned to keep the flexible connector in engagement with the first portion of the drive.

21. (Previously Presented) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, wherein the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain.

22. (Previously Presented) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, wherein the stationary frame is mounted on a vehicle.

23. (Previously Presented) The loading apparatus of any one of 18 through 20, wherein:
the flexible connector is a chain;
the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain; and
the stationary frame is mounted on a vehicle.

24. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~[[;]]~~

~~[[b)-a]]~~ **wherein the** drive ~~cooperating~~ **cooperates** with the stationary frame and **is** adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ **load** the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

~~[[e)]]~~ **b)** a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ **and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of** the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidably engages the movable frame.

25. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~[[;]]~~

~~[[b)-a]]~~ **wherein the** drive ~~cooperating~~ **cooperates** with the stationary frame and **is** adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ **load** the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

~~[[e)]]~~ **b)** a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame

cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain.

26. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a)] wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; ~~and~~

[[e)] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein movement of the movable frame, powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame.

27. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18

through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[~~b~~)] **wherein the** drive ~~cooperating~~ **cooperates** with the stationary frame and **is** adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ **load** the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[~~e~~)] **b)** a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ **and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of** the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidably engages the movable frame; **and**

[[~~d~~)] **c)** wherein:

the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain; and

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidably engages the movable frame.

28. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a]] wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[e)]] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)]] c) wherein:

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

there is an interconnection between the elevatable support and the moveable frame, during sliding movement of the movable frame, so that the movable frame adapts the angle of the elevatable support through the interconnection.

29. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[;]]

[[b)-a]] wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; ~~and~~

[[e)]] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame

cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein:

the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain; and

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

there is an interconnection between the elevatable support and the moveable frame, during sliding movement of the movable frame, so that the movable frame adapts the angle of the elevatable support through the interconnection.

30. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a)] wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[e)] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the

elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

31. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a)] wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[e)] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein:

the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain; and

the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

32. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a]] wherein the drive cooperating cooperates with the stationary frame and adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ **load** the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[e)] b a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ **and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of** the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidably engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c wherein:

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidably engages the movable frame; and

the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

33. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ **further** comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the

elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~[[;]]~~

~~[[b)-a]]~~ wherein the drive ~~cooperating~~ cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; ~~and~~,

~~[[e)]]~~ b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

~~[[d)]]~~ c) wherein:

the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain;

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

34. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for

pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[;]]

[[b)-a]] wherein the drive cooperating cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and

[[e))] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d))] c) wherein:

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame;

there is an interconnection between the elevatable support and the moveable frame, during sliding movement of the movable frame, so that the movable frame adapts the angle of the elevatable support through the interconnection; and

the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.

35. (Currently Amended) The loading apparatus of any one of claims 18 through 20, ~~for mounting the movable frame on the stationary frame~~ further comprising:

a) an elevatable support ~~member~~ mounted on the stationary frame, the elevatable support ~~member~~ having a first end portion and a second end portion, the second end portion of the elevatable support being mounted to the stationary frame for pivotal movement with respect to the stationary frame about an elevatable support axis to

provide an adjustable angle of the elevatable support [[:]]

[[b)-a]] wherein the drive cooperating cooperates with the stationary frame and is adapted for connection with the movable frame, so that the drive may slidably ~~move~~ load the movable frame onto and off of the elevatable support and the stationary frame; and,

[[e)] b) a lift action control mechanism mounted on the stationary frame cooperating with the elevatable support ~~member~~ to modulate movement of the elevatable support about the elevatable support axis ~~while permitting the angle of~~ and to permit adjustment of the adjustable angle of the elevatable support ~~to adapt~~ so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame; and

[[d)] c) wherein:

the flexible connector is a chain and the drive comprises a sprocket that engages the chain; and

movement of the movable frame powered by the drive adapts the angle of the elevatable support so that the elevatable support slidingly engages the movable frame;

there is an interconnection between the elevatable support and the moveable frame, during sliding movement of the movable frame, so that the movable frame adapts the angle of the elevatable support through the interconnection; and

the lift action control mechanism is powered to control the movement of first end portion of the elevatable support ~~member~~ towards a raised position and to control movement of the first end portion of the elevatable support towards a lowered position.